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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Application of: Antoniou and
Grosveld

Serial No.: 09/247,054

Filing Date: February 9, 1999

For: **SELF-REPLICATING EPISOMAL EXPRESSION VECTORS
CONFERRING TISSUE-SPECIFIC GENE EXPRESSION**

Confirmation No. 7091

Group Art Unit: 1632

Examiner: A. Falk

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Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

This paper is filed in response to the Office Action dated March 25, 2003. A petition for a one-month extension of time and the appropriate fee accompany this response.

In the claims

Please amend claim 39 as follows:

39. (amended) A pair of vectors comprising an expression system for expressing a gene of interest in a host cell in a tissue-restricted manner, the pair of vectors comprising:

- i) a first vector comprising
 - (a) a first origin of replication operative in mammalian host cells;
 - (b) an LCR, or functional component thereof, which when operatively linked to a gene of interest and present in a mammalian host cell directs extrachromosomal transcription of said gene in a tissue restricted manner; and
 - (c) a gene of interest; and
- [i)]ii) a second vector comprising
 - (a) a second origin of replication operative in a mammalian host cell; and
 - (b) a sequence encoding a replication protein, said replication protein being